

REMARKS

Claims 18 through 46 are pending in the present application. Claims 1 – 17 are canceled by the present amendment.

The Office Action is requiring Applicant to elect one of several inventions. Applicant is electing the invention of claim 18 and 19.

Applicant is canceling the non-elected claims, i.e., claims 1 – 17. However, Applicant is reserving the right to prosecute claims 1 – 17 by way of a continuation or divisional application.

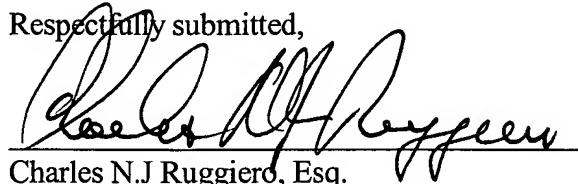
Applicant is amending claims 18 and 19 to clarify several aspects of these claims. Whereas the present amendment is being made prior to an examination of the claims on the merits, Applicant submits that the doctrine of equivalents should be available for all of the terms of all of the claims.

Applicant added claims 20 through 46 to provide further claim coverage.

Applicant respectfully requests favorable consideration and that this application be passed to allowance.

Date  
Jan 27, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

  
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